



Department of Public Works | 860.584.6125

MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 9, 2020

TO: Mayor Ellen Zoppo-Sassu
Board of Public Works

FROM: Carol Noble, P.E., Environmental Engineer

Re: DPW Engineering Division MS4 Presentation

Bristol's current MS4 (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems) program is the product of a mandate by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as part of its 1999 Stormwater Phase II rules and the response of CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CT DEEP) to promulgate the state's *General Permit for the Discharge of Stormwater from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems* (MS4 General Permit). The general permit requires each municipality to take steps to keep the stormwater entering its storm sewer systems clean before that stormwater enters water bodies.

Bristol is required to prepare and implement a Stormwater Management Plan (SMP), used as a guidance document to reduce the discharge of pollutants for City's storm drainage to the maximum extent possible; to protect water quality, and to satisfy the appropriate water quality requirements of the federal Clean Water Act. The SMP provides for six minimum control measures; including Public Education and Outreach, Public Involvement and Participation, Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination, Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control, Post-construction Stormwater Management in New Development or Redevelopment, and Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping. The MS4 General Permit requirements include focused efforts and documentation for current City programs; such as street sweeping, catch basin cleaning, snow management, public education, public input and staff training. The permit requirements also include extended provisions for runoff reduction, low impact development, illicit discharge detection, and outfall monitoring. Identification/prioritization of stormwater projects are required to be phased in and reported in a one to five year time period.

The diffuse or "nonpoint source" pollution is the next big challenge in cleaning our water bodies. This program regulates how municipalities (and institutions) manage their stormwater to help reduce the number of pollutants being carried into our water bodies.